

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 01014 101851Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 AID-05 CIAE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 /091 W
-----059674 110231Z /75

R 100702Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 904
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
DIA WASHDC
SECDEF
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 1014

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR MASS SY XH XU
SUBJECT: MILITARY SUPPLIES TO SYRIA

REF: (A) DAMASCUS 1324 (B) BUDAPEST 620 (NOTAL)

1. MFA OFFICIAL RECENTLY TOLD EMBOFF THAT WARSAW PACT NATIONS COORDINATED THEIR MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND WERE DOING SO IN CASE OF ETHIOPIA, "EACH NATIONA SUPPLYING THOSE ITEMS IT WAS BEST SUITED TO PROVIDE" (REFTEL (B)). IN EMBASSY'S EXPERIENCE WE WOULD THINK IT LOGICAL TO ASSUME COMMUNIST AID TO SYRIA IS COORDINATED BUT DO NOT KNOW WHETHER IT TAKES PLACETHROUGH A WARSAW PACT MECHANISM. WE DOUBT IN ANY CASE THAT IT IS GENERALLY DONE IN BUDAPEST SINCE THERE IS NO WARSAW PACT INSTITUTION HERE WHICH SEEMS APPROPRIATE FOR THAT PURPOSE. (PACT HEADQUARTERS IS IN LVOV, POLAND.) THIS WOULD NOT, OF COURSE, PRECLUDE POSSIBILITY OFCHEIF OF STAFF SHIHABI HAVING DISCUSSED COORDINATED WARSAW PACT AID TO SYRIA DURING HIS RECENT VISIT HERE.

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2. EMBASSY NOTES THAT HUNGARY HAS BEEN SENDING SHIPMENTS OF MILITARY SUPPL HS AND EQUIPMENT TO SYRIA, INCLUDING WESPONS, (PRINCIPALLY INDIVIDUAL AND CREW-SERVED AUTOMATIC WEAPONS), ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES. ITS OWN SELF-INTEREST IN SUCH SHIPMENTS IS NOT GREAT AND WE

BELIEVE THE HUNGARIANS ARE MOTIVATED PRIMARILY BY A
DESIRE TO BE OF ASSISTANCE TO THE SOVIET UNION.
WILGIS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUPPLIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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